



FACT SHEET

GRID RESILIENCE AND INNOVATION PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM

Established by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, the U.S. Department of Energy's Grid Deployment Office is administering a historic \$10.5 billion investment via the Grid Resilience and Innovation Partnerships (GRIP) program to enhance grid flexibility, improve the resilience of the power system against growing threats of extreme weather and climate change, and ensure American communities have access to affordable, reliable, clean electricity when and where they need it.

UPGRADING THE CHATTANOOGA GRID TO IMPROVE ENERGY RESILIENCE AND RELIABILITY

EPB of Chattanooga (EPB) project will upgrade and demonstrate continuous improvements in resiliency and reliability, while also improving EPB's ability to better monitor and operate the electric system during impacts of extreme weather and natural disasters, such as severe storms, high winds, snow, freezing rain, and ice. To accomplish this goal, EPB is deploying six new microgrids that will be constructed to improve reliability and resiliency in remote areas near the edge of EPB's service territory. EPB is also converting 268 fused lateral circuits from overhead to underground to reduce customer outages and restoration time and their associated costs, which will also allow EPB to complete a backlog of 1,388 poles that need to be replaced based upon inspections.

Anticipated Outcomes and Benefits

- › Reduce EPB's average power outage duration by 8 minutes.
- › Reduce a minimum of 12 metric tons of carbon emissions from a reduction in dispatching trucks to fix grid outages annually.
- › Direct 50% of benefits achieved through improved resiliency and workforce development to disadvantaged communities (DACs).
- › Allocate 58% of pole replacement work and 43% of undergrounding in DACs.
- › Maintain at least 25% of suppliers, contractors, and vendors for this proposal are Minority and Women Owned Business (MWOB).
- › Provide 30 additional American Association of Blacks in Energy (AABE) New Heights Program Scholarships to the Southeast Lineman Training Center over five years. The AABE New Heights Scholarship Program is designed to provide resources to help individuals from underrepresented communities find a career in the electrical and communications linework industries. In addition to the AABE, the program is also supported by Hamilton County schools, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 175, Tennessee Valley Authority, and other partners.
- › Grow training for skilled positions in information technology in coordination with Chattanooga State Community College.

PROJECT DETAILS

- › **Project:**
EPB Chattanooga Grid Resiliency Upgrades: Network Conversions and Microgrids
- › **Applicant/Selectee:**
Electric Power Board of Chattanooga
- › **GRIP Program:**
Grid Resilience Utility and Industry Grants (Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, Section 40101(c))
- › **Federal cost share:**
\$32,375,691
- › **Recipient cost share:**
\$32,375,691
- › **Project Location:**
Hamilton County, TN
- › **Project type:**
System Hardening and Microgrids with Batteries

HELPFUL LINKS

- › [Grid Resilience and Innovation Partnerships Program](#)
- › [About the Grid Deployment Office](#)